



House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Press Release – For immediate release

**Sarah Champion
Member of Parliament for Rotherham
10th September 2013**

Local MP speaks out in Parliament against Lobbying Bill

Sarah Champion MP has spoken out strongly against the Government's Lobbying Bill with its potentially damaging consequences for so many people in Rotherham.

This ill-conceived legislation could make it far more difficult for small charities and local organisations by discouraging and restricting those already working hard to improve their communities. Charities already facing huge cuts under this Government will be forced to undertake extra administration, financially burdening them even more.

Sarah said: "Small charities in our area do so much to improve the lives of people and I believe the Government should be helping these willing people to do more, instead of trying to gag them by tying them up in inordinate amounts of red tape.

"Whilst I am absolutely in favour of transparency with regard to lobbying, I feel that the Government needs to make a clear distinction between those lobbying for commercial gain, and those trying to engage with the democratic process of bringing about social change that aids the wider population."

To view Sarah's full statement to Parliament, click here

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm130910/debtext/130910-0004.htm#13091061001366>

ENDS